

2009 Excellence in Education Award Program

The Army Management Staff College (AMSC) Excellence in Education Award Program recognizes excellence in education by a unit, school, garrison or agency for the specified Academic Year. Sponsored and managed by AMSC and sponsored by the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), the Excellence in Education Award encourages and rewards organizations that strengthen the core attributes of the Army workforce through innovation in education, aggressive and creative professional development programs, and a unique emphasis on life-long learning.

The Excellence in Education Award serves as a catalyst for an Army-wide transformation to improve education and strengthen the concept of life-long learning. The keys to sustaining an environment of excellence in education are strategic planning, innovation, technology, and a continuous assessment of customer needs. Striving for excellence in education strengthens our capability and contributes to improving Army Readiness.

AMSC will, at the conclusion of its Annual Leadership Symposium, recognize one Army organization for its achievements during the past year. AMSC will manage the entire awards process, which includes the award criteria, marketing and public relations; the application process; selection and notification, and the recognition ceremony.

Excellence in Education Award Criteria

- ◆ The organization directly or indirectly advances the cause of education and life-long learning.
- ◆ The organization consists of at least 25% Army civilian employees.
- ◆ The organization uses innovative and unique approaches to education.
- ◆ The organization's processes are well documented.
- ◆ The organization supports progressive and sequential leadership training for employees.
- ◆ The organization demonstrates effective collaboration and supports partnerships among business, industry, and government (if applicable).
- ◆ The organization effectively measures/evaluates outcomes that show success.
- ◆ Diverse stakeholders participate in planning and decision-making efforts aimed at improving educational processes.
- ◆ The organization's efforts significantly improve the community quality of life of its employees, customers, and stakeholders.
- ◆ The organization values open-access to education and training resources.
- ◆ The organization's success can be modeled to other organizations.

The AMSC Excellence in Education Award Criteria is designed to dispel the notion that education is a single event or class and to promote a philosophy that education is a life-long pursuit that can be influenced and enhanced by the institution or organization.

The Excellence in Education Award Process

The Excellence in Education Award program process is made up of four sub-processes. (See Figure)

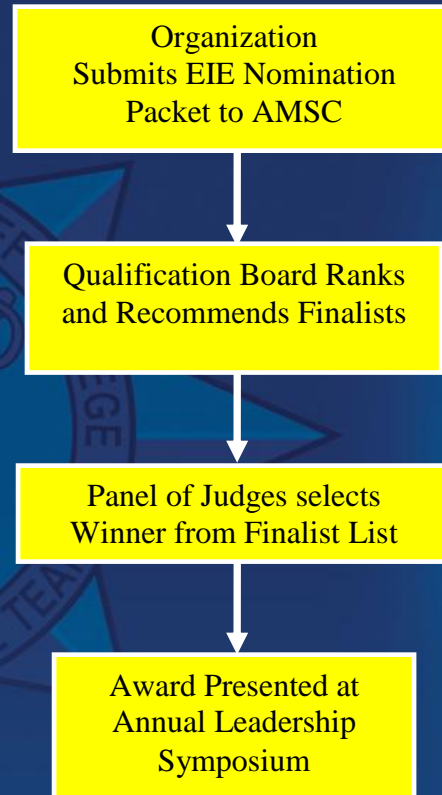


Figure 1: AMSC Excellence in Education Award Process

Nomination Packet Development and Delivery

The first step in the process is for individual organizations to prepare a nomination packet that addresses the criteria established for the award. Nomination criteria and format will be available through our web-site. Packets are submitted in the form of a written narrative that does not exceed 35 pages. Applicants will submit one electronic copy to the web-site and 3 hard copy duplicates to the address identified on the application. Applications must be submitted by the established deadline or they will not be considered.



The Qualification Board

Applications are logged in and given a control number by AMSC personnel after the closing date. AMSC conducts a review of each packet using a Qualification Board. The purpose of the Qualification Board is to identify those organizations that strongly demonstrate the award criteria. The Qualification Board consists of educators, HR experts, subject matter experts (SME), and leaders from throughout the Army who have interest and knowledge of education and life-long learning.

These experts use the process shown in Figure 2.

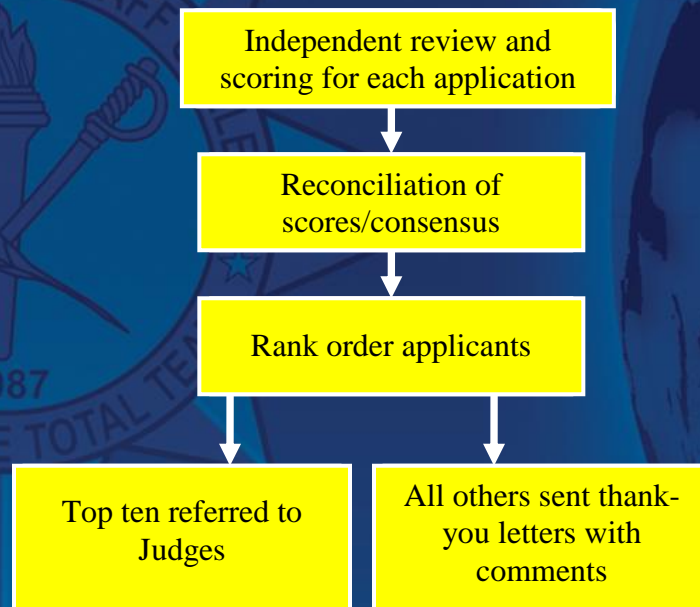


Figure 2: Qualification Board Process

A thank-you letter is mailed to applicants not selected to move forward. Applicants found to show significant maturity against the criteria will receive a more in-depth evaluation from the Panel of Judges in the next step.

Panel of Judges

Those application packets selected by the Qualifications Board to move forward in the process are sent to the Panel of Judges for a decision. At the Panel of Judges, each applicant will be reviewed by each judge. The panel will then calibrate their scores to determine the highest scoring applicants. The highest scoring applicants will then be compared to each other to determine the three winners. The applicants deemed most worthy of recognition will be selected as the winners. The process for the Panel of Judges is shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Panel of Judges Process

The Awards Presentation

The AMSC Excellence in Education Award will be awarded to the highest ranking member of the organization (or their representative) as part of the Annual Leadership Symposium agenda at the Army Management Staff College. The award is comprised of an engraved statue for the 1st place winner and plaques for the 2nd and 3rd place winners.

POC for the AMSC Excellence in Education Award Process is the Department of Educational Services at eiaward@conus.army.mil.

